

element, the fuel injection being divided into at least a first partial injection and a second partial injection, a start of triggering of the second partial injection taking place a preselected first time period after an end of triggering of the first partial injection, wherein a time between a start of triggering of the first partial injection and the end of triggering of the first partial injection varies between at least two engine cycles, and the first time period is preselected such that a start of pump delivery of the second partial injection takes place a preselected second time period after the end of triggering of the first partial injection.

7. (Amended) A device for controlling an internal combustion engine comprising:

a control element for controlling a fuel injection during an engine cycle, the fuel injection being divided into at least a first partial injection and a second partial injection; and

means for causing a triggering of the second partial injection to start a preselected time period after a triggering of the first partial injection has ended, wherein a time between a start of triggering of the first partial injection and the end of triggering of the first partial injection varies between at least two engine cycles, and the first time period is preselected such that a start of pump delivery of the second partial injection takes place a preselected second time period after the end of triggering of the first partial injection.

#### REMARKS

Claim 2 has been canceled, so Claims 1 and 3-7 are pending in the present application. Presently, pending Claims 1 and 3-7 stand rejected.